PAPER – OPEN ACCESS

The Influence of Isan Dialect in Speaking

TALENTA Conference Series

The Influence of Isan Dialect in Speaking

Dina Sri Wahyuni, Rini Prismayanti, Gustianingsih

Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Sumatera Utara, Medan, 20155, Indonesia

dinasriwahyuni25@gmail.com

Abstract

The aim of the research is to discover the influence of Northeastern Thailand *'Isan'* dialect in Speaking English. Based on the complexity of the linguistic landscape in Thailand, Thai has four regional dialects which generally broken down into north, south, north-east, and central. The reason why the researcher interested to analyze the 'Isan' dialect is, '*Lao'* language or well known as '*Isan*' dialect is originally from Laos yet there are more speakers of '*Lao*' language in Thailand than in Laos. In this research, the researchers interview the native speakers of Isan to gain data as the evidence. This research is using generative phonology theory by Morris Halle, which the researcher focus on extra-grammatical factor In the process of analyze, the researchers also do the correlation with every aspect in Phonology to get the data how they pronounce every single words in English. The data source is from interview activities with the native speakers of Isan who live in Surin and Sisaket province. The method of this research is by interviewing native speaker, the researcher ask the native speaker of Isan to speak in English. Then, continue with recording method. After that, the researchers classify every single word what the native speaker pronounce to get the data of articulation process. The researcher found that *'Isan'* language have influenced how Thai people speaking in English, they hard to pronounce the letter of C, L, T, S, and R .For example; face, alcohol gel, night, sunrise, and forgot

Keywords: 'Isan' language; Thailand; speaking;

Abstrak

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui pengaruh 'Isan'dialek Timur Laut Thailand dalam Berbicara Bahasa Inggris. Berdasarkan kompleksitas lanskap kebahasaan di Thailand, bahasa Thai memiliki empat dialek daerah yang umumnya terbagi menjadi utara, selatan, timur laut, dan tengah. Alasan peneliti tertarik untuk menganalisis dialek 'Isan' adalah, bahasa "Lao" atau yang lebih dikenal dengan dialek "Isan" berasal dari Laos namun penutur bahasa "Lao" di Thailand lebih banyak daripada di Laos. Dalam penelitian ini peneliti mewawancarai penutur asli bahasa Isan untuk mendapatkan data sebagai bukti. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori fonologi generatif oleh Morris Halle, dimana peneliti memfokuskan pada faktor ekstra-gramatikal. Dalam proses analisis, peneliti juga melakukan korelasi pada setiap aspek dalam Fonologi untuk mendapatkan data bagaimana mereka mengucapkan setiap kata dalam bahasa Inggris. Sumber data berasal dari kegiatan wawancara dengan penutur asli Isan yang tinggal di provinsi Surin dan Sisaket. Metode penelitian ini adalah dengan mewawancarai native speaker, peneliti meminta native speaker dari Isan untuk berbicara dalam bahasa Inggris. Kemudian, lanjutkan dengan metode pencatatan. Setelah itu, peneliti mengklasifikasikan setiap kata apa yang diucapkan oleh penutur asli untuk mendapatkan data proses artikulasi. Peneliti menemukan bahwa bahasa "Isan" telah mempengaruhi cara orang Thai berbicara dalam bahasa Inggris, mereka sulit mengucapkan huruf C, L, T, S, dan R. Misalnya; 'face', 'alcohol gel', 'night', 'sunrise', dan 'forgot'

Kata Kunci: bahasa 'Isan'; Thailand; berbicara;

1. Introduction

The language which is using in speaking is the essential thing for communication and to deliver the meaning and the purpose of the speaker. Every language has dialect that contains meaning. Therefore, if using the wrong language, there is possibility that occur the misunderstanding between the speakers.

The using of language by the speaker or group of people during communicate could describe where they come from. Because language related to culture and tribe, as we know if someone speak using Java Kromo language we could identify the person come from a respected family as Royal Family of Special district of Yogyakarta.

In Thailand there are 4 types of dialect which using by Thai people based on the regional of its language. First, Lanna (*phasa neua*) where mostly speak by people who live in the Northern region of Thailand such as Chiang mai. Second, isaan where from North East Thailand such as, Buriram, Sisaket, Surin, Roi Et, Nakhon Ratchasima which there are some similarities to the Laos language. Third, Bangkok dialect as the official language of Thailand where mostly people in Bangkok using this dialect. Fourth, sourthern dialect which located in upper part of Nakhon Si Thammarat province.

Isan language Isan, meaning 'Northeast', is the Thai (Sanskrit-derived) word for Northeast Thailand, the 20 provinces on the Khorat Plateau, a highly contested area which was for several centuries fought over by Myanmar, Khmer, Thai and Laotian kingdoms.[1] Isan is the largest minority dialect or language in Thailand, with a population of around fifteen to twenty million ethnically Lao speakers.[2] Those facts which make the writer interest to analyze Isan dialect. How the influence of English while native speaker of Isan dialect speaking.

2. Research Method

The method of this research is by interviewing the native speaker of Isan dialect who lives in Surin and Sisaket province. The researcher asked the native speaker of Isan to speak in English, after that continue to make some notes of what the native speaker have spoken. Then, the researcher classifies every word from what the native speaker said to gain data of the articulation process. The researcher interviewing 3 people who originally from Surin and Sisaket province. The research using generative phonology theory by Chomsky

3. Result of the research

Based on the data, the researcher classified it into the phonological rules they are; deletion, permutation, infix, transformasional and affirmation.

Table 1. Deletion - Data Analysis based on the interview with Native speaker

NO	Base Form	Progressive	Meaning
1.	/Behind/	[biha?] Formula [n] Ø / --- [a]	at or towards the back of somebody
2.	/science/	[saii?] Formula [n] Ø / --- [i]	based on facts that you can prove
3.	/hundred/	[haned] Formula [r] Ø / --- [e]	the numbers from 100 to 999
4.	/sometime/	[samtam] Formula [t] Ø / --- [i]	at a time that you do not know exactly
5.	/five/	[faii] Formula [v] Ø / --- [i]	number
6.	/beautiful/	[biutifu] Formula [l] Ø / --- [u]	having beauty
7.	/alcohol gel/	[a?coho?ge?] Formula [l] Ø / --- [a]	is used in medicines
8.	/night/	[nai] Formula [t] Ø / --- [i]	when people usually sleep
9.	/forgot/	[forgo] Formula [t] Ø / --- [o]	PAST TENSE OF forget
10.	/sunrise/	[sanraii] Formula [i] Ø / --- [s]	the time when the sun first appears in the sky in the morning

Table 2. Permutation

NO	BASIC FORM	PROGRESSIVE	MEANING
1.	/world/	[wrold] Formula [ro] [or] / - #-	the earth
2.	/delicious/	[delicias] Formula [as] [us] / ---#	having a very pleasant taste or smell
3.	/around/	[arauw] Formula [uw] [nd] / ---#	on each side of something
4	/about/	[abauw] Formula [ut] [uw] / ---#	on the subject of somebody
5.	/peace/	[piitse] Formula [ce] [tse] / ---#	the state of being calm or quiet
6	/resource/	[risortse] Formula [tse] [ce] / ---#	a supply of something that a country
7.	/have/	[hape] Formula [pe] [ve] / ---#	Phrasal Verbs

Table 3. Infix

NO	BASE FORM	PROGRESSIVE	MEANING
1.	/financial/	[finansyyial] Formula Ø [y] / # s --- i#	connected with money and finance
2.	/smiling/	[smaiyiling] Formula Ø [y] / # i --- l#	expression
3.	/island/	[aisland] Formula Ø [s] / # i --- l#	a piece of land that is completely surrounded by water

Tabel 4. Coalesence

NO	BASE FORM	PROGRESSIVE	MEANING
1.	/sugar/	[suga:] Formula [a] [R] [a:] / --- [R]#	a sweet substance
2.	/near/	[niea:] Formula [a] [R] [a:] / --- [R]#	at a short distance away from somebody/something

The researcher also divided some words into the process of phonology as explained below,

Tabel 5. Affirmation

NO	BASE FORM	PROGRESSIVE	MEANING
1.	/beach/	[beacc?]	next to the sea or a lake
2.	/face/	[fæcc]	front of head

4. Explanation

Based on the research, Native speaker of Isan language the researcher found there are 10 words which classified into the phonology rules. The first, deletion the parts which experience deletion appear on the left of the arrow and deletion Ø appear on the right side. At the end of the words in specific consonants, if in the next word start with consonants or if the consonants in the phrase position [4]. There are words which experience deletion during the interview, such as; behind, science, beautiful, sometime, etc. Native speaker of Isan language often to do deletion in consonants, nd, nc, r, l and t. Second, there are some words which experience permutation as spoken by the native speakers of Isan language, they mostly do the permutation in T and C letter such as; about – [abauw]. Third, there are some words experience infix which is the usually add other letter in the middle of the words like add Y and S such as; smaiyiling and aisland. Fourth, coalescence which means the native speaker make a long sound at the end of the words, such as; sugar and near.

According to the phonological process, the researcher classified into affirmation which there are pressure at the end of the words such as beach and face.

5. Conclusion

The researcher found 24 data by the interviewed with native speaker of *Isan* language. Deletion rule is the most things which occur during the interview. There are some letters which become silent letter or disappear in the words.

6. Suggestion

The researcher must do the essential thing before start the research such as understand how to use the theory and classify the words related to the rules and the phonological process. Therefore, it would be better if the researcher know and understand every phonological rules and process in phonology generative.

References

[1]   Peter Rogers. Northeast Thailand from prehistoric to modern times (Bangkok: Suk Soongswang, 1996).
[2]   Martin P. Lewis, ed., Ethnologue: Languages of the world. 16th ed. (Dallas, Texas: SIL International, 2009).
[3]   Kenstowicz, M. Kissenbert, C. Generative Phonology (Orlando: Academic Press. Inc, 1979)
[4]   Schane, Sanford A. Generative Phonology (New Jersey: Prentice Hall Inc, 1992)
[5]   Gustianingsih.2021. Catatan Kuliah Fonologi. USU: Program Studi S-2 Linguistik